

FEBRUARY 2023 PROGRAMS

All programs are free and open to the public. An adult must accompany children. Reasonable accommodations available upon request. Programs meet at the Houghton's Pond Visitor Center unless otherwise noted. Inclement weather may cancel programs. To confirm or for more information call (857) 208-8498. Please follow all current COVID guidelines. Visit [Mass.gov/COVID](https://www.mass.gov/covid).

**Tuesdays,
February 7,
14, 21 & 28**

NATURE'S CLASSROOM, 10:00 am—11:00 am

On Tuesday mornings, learn all about the natural side of Blue Hills Reservation. For families and curious adults.

February 7 & 21—Fox Talks

The clever red and gray foxes of the Blue Hills adapt to the changing seasons and make their home here in unexpected ways.

February 14 & 28—Fungi Facts

Come learn about the mysterious and hidden world of fungi. Ancient in the extreme, fungi are crucial to life on earth. Fungi are more than just beautiful and sometimes deadly mushrooms.

**Tuesdays,
February 7,
14, 21 & 28**

EXPLORING BLUE HILLS, 2:30 pm—4:00 pm

On Tuesday afternoons, explore the lesser-seen parts of Blue Hills Reservation. For families and curious adults.

February 7 & 21—Burnt Hill Path

Explore the hidden trails behind Houghton's Pond. About a 2.5-mile easy to moderate hike. Meet at Visitor Center.

February 14—Heart Healthy Hike

Join us for a restful and rejuvenation heart-healthy 1.1-mile hike around Houghton's Pond. Give your own heart a little love this Valentine's Day. Meet at Visitor Center.

February 28—St. Moritz Pond

Explore beautiful St. Moritz Pond and rocky Rattlesnake Hill. Meet at Shea Rink Parking Lot at 651 Willard Street in Quincy.

**Wednesdays,
February 8 &
22**

GREAT BLUE YONDER HIKE, 2:00 pm—4:00 pm Meets at Trailside Museum Parking Lot.

Join us on a moderate hike to the highest point in MA south of Boston and enjoy the majestic views from the top of Great Blue Hill. Suitable for adults with hiking experience. Inclement weather or icy trails may cancel. Please call ahead to confirm.

**Thursdays,
February 2, 9,
16 & 23**

HISTORY IN THE HILLS TALKS, 9:00 am—10:30 am

On Thursday mornings, learn about the history of the Blue Hills Reservation. Accessible lectures at Visitor Center. For adults and children over 12.

February 2 & 16—Baker's Chocolate

Chocolate transformed Milton and Dorchester's economy. Baker's Chocolate was a leader in the Industrial Revolution. Learn what became of its bitter-sweet legacy. Accessible lecture at Visitor Center.

February 9 & 23—Charles Eliot's Dream

Charles Eliot was a dreamer. He dreamed about what public parks could be and helped to create the Emerald Necklace, the Trustees of Reservations, and the Metropolitan Parks Commission, the precursor to the DCR, as well as the Blue Hills Reservation. Come explore the life and work of one of the founding fathers of Massachusetts conservation. Accessible lecture at Visitor Center.

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PROGRAMS CONTINUED

- Thursdays,
February 2, 9,
16 & 23

WINTER WONDERS SERIES, 3:00 pm—4:00 pm
Join us to experience the winter wonders of the Blue Hills!

February 2 & 16—A Parliament of Owls
The owls of the Blue Hills are deadly predators of the winter night. But they are also just so dang cute! Join us on this all ages program to learn about the remarkable adaptations that allow owls to be the deadly and adorable hunters they are.

February 9 & 23—Hibernation Holiday
Ever wonder where snakes, turtles, and other cold-blooded animals go when the temperature and the snow falls? Come find out on this fun and informative all ages program.
- Fridays,
February 3,
10, 17 & 24

KIDLEIDOSCOPE, 10:00 am—11:00 am
Join us for a nature crafts and nature facts! Each week we will features a different nature theme and a craft on that theme. Suitable for ages 4-10 with an adult.
- Saturdays,
February 4,
11 & 25

FAMILY NATURE EXPLORATION, 10:00 am—11:00 am
On Saturday mornings, explore what nature has to offer in the Blue Hills Reservation. For families and curious adults.

February 4—Animal Detectives
Animal tracks tell the story of wildlife in the forest—where they go, what they eat, and who’s trying to eat them. Learn how to tell what these animals are up to when no one is around.

February 11 & 25—A Murder Most Fowl
Crows are remarkably social and intelligent animals. These clever birds have long been a source of fascination and lore. See how different cultures have viewed crows throughout history and how these myths are often supported by the newest science.
- Saturdays,
February 4,
11 & 25

NICE & EASY HIKES, 1:00 pm—2:30 pm
Looking to get outdoors and take a gentle, guided hike in the beautiful Blue Hills? Join us for our weekly series of leisurely paced nature hikes (1.5-3 miles long). Learn about nature at your own pace and make some friends along the way. All ages.

SPECIAL HIKES

- Sunday,
February 5

SE MA ADULT WALKING CLUB HIKE, 1:00 pm—3:00 pm
Moderate 3-miles along Wolcott Path to Wildcat Notch Path and return on Raccoon Hollow Path. Meet at Houghton’s Pond lot at 840 Hillside Street in Milton. Bring drinking water and wear sturdy winter hiking boots and clothes. If weather or trail conditions are questionable, please call (617) 698-1802 to confirm. For adults.
- Saturday,
February 18

SE MA ADULT WALKING CLUB HIKE, 1:00 pm—3:30 pm
Moderately difficult 4-mile Red Dot Buck Hill hike. Some steep and rocky parts, particularly at the beginning, with a more gentle return route. Meet at Houghton’s Pond lot at 840 Hillside Street in Milton. Bring drinking water and wear sturdy winter hiking boots and clothes. If weather or trail conditions are questionable, please call (617) 698-1802 to confirm. For adults.